

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): An electrical connector for single-ended signals that can be electrically connected to a printed circuit board, the electrical connector having ground conductors and signal conductors in a plurality of rows, comprising:

each of the plurality of rows includes:

a plurality of ground conductors and signal conductors;

each signal conductor having a contact tail that electrically connects to the printed circuit board;

each ground conductor having at least two contact tails that electrically connect to the printed circuit board; and

the signal conductors and the ground conductors are ~~positioned adjacent to one another~~ interleaved along the row so that for each a signal conductor contact tail, there ~~are ground conductor is a~~ contact tails of a ground conductor on one adjacent either side of the signal conductor contact tail and a contact tail of another ground conductor on the other side of the signal conductor contact tail.

Claim 2 (original): The electrical connector of claim 1, wherein the contact tails of the ground conductors and the signal conductors comprise press-fit contact tails.

Claim 3 (original): The electrical connector of claim 1, wherein the contact tails of the ground conductors and the signal conductors comprise pressure mount contact tails.

Claim 4 (original): The electrical connector of claim 1, wherein the contact tails of the ground conductors and the signal conductors comprise contact pads adapted for soldering to the printed circuit board.

Claim 5 (original): The electrical connector of claim 1, wherein a distance between a signal conductor contact tail and an adjacent ground conductor contact tail of a row is less than a distance between adjacent rows.

Claim 6 (original): The electrical connector of claim 1, wherein for each of the plurality of rows, a distance between a signal conductor contact tail and an adjacent ground conductor contact tail on one side is similar to a distance between the signal conductor contact tail and an adjacent ground conductor contact tail on the other side.

Claim 7 (original): The electrical connector of claim 1, wherein for each of the plurality of rows, the contact tails of the signal conductors and the ground conductors are configured to align along a line when connected to the printed circuit board.

Claim 8 (currently amended): An electrical connector connectable to a printed circuit board, comprising:

- an insulative housing including side walls and a base, wherein the base has a first height;

- a plurality of signal conductors, with each signal conductor having a first contact end connectable to the printed circuit board, a second contact end, and an intermediate portion therebetween that is disposed in the base of the insulative housing;

- a plurality of ground conductors, with each ground conductor having a first contact end connectable to the printed circuit board, a second contact end, and an intermediate portion therebetween that is disposed in the base of the insulative housing;

- the signal conductors and the ground conductors are arranged in a plurality of rows, with each row having signal conductors and ground conductors;

- for each of the plurality of rows, there is a corresponding ground strip positioned adjacent thereto disposed in the base of the insulative housing, wherein the ground strip has a second height which is not greater than the first height; and

- the ground strip is electrically connected to the ground conductors of the row.

Claim 9 (canceled).

Claim 10 (original): The electrical connector of claim 8, wherein the ground strip has a first surface facing the corresponding ground conductors of the row, the first surface including projections that electrically connect to the corresponding ground conductors of the row.

Claim 11 (original): The electrical connector of claim 8, wherein the ground strip has a first end and a second end, the first end and the second end being bent in the direction of the corresponding row of signal conductors and ground conductors, and the first end of the ground strip extending beyond an end of the row and the second end of the ground strip extending beyond the other end of the row.

Claim 12 (original): The electrical connector of claim 11, wherein the first end of the ground strip includes a contact tail connectable to the printed circuit board and the second end of the ground strip includes a contact tail connectable to the printed circuit board.

Claim 13 (original): The electrical connector of claim 12, wherein for each of the plurality of rows, the first contact ends of the signal conductors and the ground conductors and the contact tails of the corresponding ground strip are aligned along a line when connected to the printed circuit board.

Claim 14 (original): The electrical connector of claim 13, wherein for each of the plurality of rows, the first contact end of each signal conductor comprises a contact tail and the first contact end of each ground conductor comprises at least two contact tails so that for each signal conductor contact tail, there are ground conductor contact tails adjacent either side of the signal conductor contact tail.

Claim 15 (original): The electrical connector of claim 8, wherein for each of the plurality of rows, the first contact end of each signal conductor comprises a contact tail and the first contact end of each ground conductor comprises at least two contact tails.

Claim 16 (original): The electrical connector of claim 15, wherein the contact tails of the ground conductors and the signal conductors comprise press-fit contact tails.

Claim 17 (original): The electrical connector of claim 15, wherein the contact tails of the ground conductors and the signal conductors comprise pressure mount contact tails.

Claim 18 (original): The electrical connector of claim 15, wherein the contact tails of the ground conductors and the signal conductors comprise contact pads adapted for soldering to the printed circuit board.

Claim 19 (original): The electrical connector of claim 15, wherein a distance between a signal conductor contact tail and an adjacent ground conductor contact tail of a row is less than a distance between adjacent rows.